

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12-15 and 19 to read as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) Automatic stripping pliers, ~~in particular for~~ especially suitable for stripping flat cables, said pliers comprising, in combination:

- a knife unit, having at least one knife holder and a knife carriage articulated on said knife holder;

- a clamping arm unit with at least one clamping jaw located at its front end;

- a base housing with

- \* one upper clamping arm, in which the knife unit is guided in a movable fashion,

- \* at least one clamping jaw,

- \* a clamping arm bearing on which the clamping arm unit is articulated;

- a handle lever unit, which is articulated at an articulated handle lever bearing with the base housing; and
- an elbow lever unit consisting of a first and a second elbow lever arm that are articulated relative to one another via an elbow lever center axis, ~~whereby~~ wherein

- \* the first elbow lever arm is guided with ~~the~~ a first elbow lever end axis in a guide link of the clamping arm unit,

- \* the second elbow lever is articulated at the knife unit, and

- \* the elbow lever center axis is guided in the handle lever unit ~~{60}~~.

2. (Previously Presented) Stripping pliers as set forth in claim 1, wherein the knife unit is supported in a movable fashion in the clamping arm unit.

3. (Currently Amended) Stripping pliers as set forth in claim 1, wherein the base housing ~~exhibits~~ includes a hand grip section.

4. (Currently Amended) Stripping pliers as set forth in claim 1, wherein the handle lever unit ~~exhibits~~ includes at least one elbow lever axis guide groove, a spring element bearing and a stop bolt.

5. (Previously Presented) Stripping pliers as set forth in claim 4, further comprising a stop element, which can be moved with the first elbow lever end axis in relation to the clamping arm unit and rests on the stop bolt with the stop surface.

6. (Previously Presented) Stripping pliers as set forth in claim 4, wherein the first elbow lever arm with the first elbow lever end axis is supported in a movable fashion in the elbow lever axis guide groove of the clamping arm unit.

7. (Currently Amended) Stripping pliers as set forth in claim ~~1~~ 4, wherein the elbow lever center axis is guided in the elbow lever axis guide groove of the handle lever unit.

8. (Currently Amended) Stripping pliers as set forth in claim 1, wherein at least one of the knife holder and the knife carriage ~~exhibits~~ includes a U-shaped cross-section at least in the area of ~~the~~ an articulated axis and whereby a

cable feed-through channel is created between the knife carriage and the knife holder.

9. (Currently Amended) Stripping pliers as set forth in claim ~~1~~ 4, wherein the elbow lever center axis is supported in the elbow lever axis guide groove in a rollable fashion via an elbow lever guide roll.

10. (Currently Amended) Stripping pliers as set forth in claim 4, wherein ~~the~~ a guide edge of the elbow lever axis guide groove ~~is thickened through~~ includes a thickening guide strip.

11. (Previously Presented) Stripping pliers as set forth in claim 1, wherein the knife carriage exhibits an elbow lever axis guide groove across a portion of its length, which is at least partially covered by the elbow lever axis guide groove of the clamping arm unit.

12. (Currently Amended) Stripping pliers as set forth in claim 1, wherein the clamping arm unit ~~exhibits~~ includes, at its lower side, a guide link on which the knife unit is guided via a knife unit guide roll.

13. (Currently Amended) Stripping pliers as set forth in claim 12, wherein the guide link ~~exhibits~~ includes at least one locking notch.

14. (Currently Amended) Stripping pliers as set forth in claim 12, wherein the knife unit guide roll is supported at the a spring receiving joint.

15. (Currently Amended) Stripping pliers as set forth in claim 1, wherein ~~the~~ a second elbow lever end axis is located in the articulated axis of the knife unit.

16. (Previously Presented) Stripping pliers as set forth in claim 1, wherein the knife carriage and the knife holder are provided with replaceable knife elements.

17. (Previously Presented) Stripping pliers as set forth in claim 1, wherein the upper clamping arm and the clamping arm unit are provided with replaceable clamping jaws.

18. (Previously Presented) Stripping pliers as set forth in claim 1, wherein a knife blade is located at the handle lever unit, with said knife blade moving with a pivoting

movement of the handle lever unit against a fixed knife element in the base housing.

19. (Currently Amended) Stripping pliers as set forth in claim 1, wherein the upper clamping arm ~~exhibits~~ includes a pressure point element that is guided in a pressure point element guide groove and that is located opposite the upper end of the knife unit.

20. (Previously Presented) Stripping pliers as set forth in claim 1, wherein the articulated clamping arm bearing is formed by an axis that is connected with the base housing and that rests against a damping element located in the clamping arm unit.

21. (Previously Presented) Stripping pliers as set forth in claim 20, wherein the damping element is located underneath the axis in an elongated hole in the clamping arm unit.